Jorhat, Jodhpur, Leh, Pune, Port Blair, Silchar, Srinagar, Tezpur, Tezu, and Vishakhapatnam airports are the Civilian used airports controlled by Defence authorities.

(b) The ownership of Goa's Dabolim airport is with Ministry of Defence (Navy).

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal/representation in this regard.

Handing over of Hyderabad Airport to IAF

2170. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to hand over Begampet (Hyderabad Airport) civil airport to IAF for military flying;

(b) if so, whether comments from the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been sought;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether the handing over of Begampet civil airport to IAF would hamper the traffic of the proposed international airport at Shamshabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Government of Andhra Pradesh is of the view that Begumpet (Hyderabad) Airport should not be handed over to Indian Air Force.

(d) Under all situations, a suitable air space restructuring and air traffic management plan would be prepared to handle the traffic of the proposed international airport without hindrance.

Operation of Small Airports

2171. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to allow

small airports, with no-frills to come up in the vicinity of the international airports, modelled on London's Stansted Airport, which would offer fewer facilities and charge lower rates, for overall cheaper operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the specific sites identified so far for the purpose in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There is no such proposal to construct small airports in the vicinity of International Airports.

(b) Does not arise.

AIR India's Services from Kolkata

2172. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of fifty four International Airlines Flights per week from Kolkata only one is operated by Air India that too upto Mumbai;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action plan to increase air linkage of Kolkata with South East Asia, East Asia, European countries through Air India;

(d) whether a request has been made by State Government for Kolkata-Tokyo flight by Air India in view of high investment of Japanese Companies in West Bengal; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Due to capacity constraints and limited market from Kolkata, Air India links Kolkata to UK, USA, Europe and Gulf over Mumbai once a week.

(c) Presently Air India has no plans to introduce direct services between Kolkata and any South East Asian/East Asian or European countries.

(D) and (e) A request had been received from Chief Minister, West Bengal in October 2002, requesting for direct flights from Kolkata to Tokyo. The request was examined and a reply was sent to CM in February 2003.